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FRED GALVAN

THE UNITED STATES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

ANNCR:

NEWS ANALYST FRED GALVAN SEES THE WORLD ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS DOMINATING THE JUST-CONVENED GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES, AND EXAMINES THE UNITED STATES POSITION ON THIS ISSUE.

VOICE:

EVEN BEFORE THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE FOREIGN MINISTERS GATHERED IN SANTIAGO, CHILE, IT WAS GENERALLY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HUMAN RIGHTS WOULD DOMINATE THEIR MEETINGS. (OPT) FOR ONE THING, THEY ARE TAKING PLACE IN THE CAPITAL OF A SOUTH AMERICAN REPUBLIC VERY WIDELY CRITICIZED FOR THE ATTITUDE ITS MILITARY GOVERNMENT HAS UP TO NOW TAKEN TOWARD THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF ITS OPPONENTS. (END OPT) THE HEAD OF THAT MILITARY GOVERNMENT TRIED TO DISPEL THAT CRITICISM IN HIS WELCOMING ADDRESS TO THE O.A.S. DELEGATIONS FRIDAY. PRESIDENT PINOCHET CALLED FOR NEW STANDARDS TO APPLY TO SERIOUS VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS--NORMS FOUNDED ON JUSTICE, OBJECTIVITY AND APPLICABILITY TO ALL COUNTRIES.

THE UNITED STATES, IN LINE WITH ITS TRADITIONAL ATTITUDE TOWARD THE WORLD HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE, OBVIOUSLY MUST WELCOME GENERAL PINOCHET'S WORDS. AND JUST AS OBVIOUSLY WILL BE DEEPLY INTERESTED TO SEE HOW HIS GOVERNMENT'S DELEGATION WORKS TOWARD PUTTING FLESH AND BONES ON THEM.

IN WASHINGTON'S VIEW, A GOOD START BY CHILE ALONG THESE LINES WAS MADE RECENTLY WHEN IT PUSHED FOR INCLUSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE IN THE O.A.S. CONFERENCE AGENDA.

(OPT) EVEN BEFORE THE SANTIAGO MEETING BEGAN, AN AMERICAN DELEGATE SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD WORK TOWARD STRENG-

THENING THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION. THE U.S., HE SAID, WILL CALL FOR ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR THE COMMISSION TO ENABLE IT TO INVESTIGATE MORE CLOSELY AND THOROUGH CASES OF ALLEGED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THIS HEMISPHERE. AND THE AMERICAN DELEGATE SAID THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES FIRMLY THAT EVERY O.A.S. MEMBER HAS AN OBLIGATION TO MAINTAIN INTERNATIONALLY-ACCEPTED STANDARDS OF PROTECTION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. (END OPT)

THE AMERICAN POSITION ON THIS ISSUE AT SANTIAGO CLOSELY PARALLELS WASHINGTON'S ATTITUDE TOWARD IT IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES OVER THE PAST YEAR. AT LAST YEAR'S SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE UNITED STATES PROPOSED A RESOLUTION URGING U.N. MEMBER GOVERNMENTS TO DECLARE--IN ITS WORDS--"AN UNCONDITIONAL AMNESTY BY FREEING ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS." IN THE PROTRACTED NEGOTIATIONS ON THE HELSINKI EUROPEAN SECURITY AGREEMENT, WHICH IT SIGNED ALONG WITH THIRTY-FIVE OTHER NATIONS--INCLUDING THE EAST EUROPEANS AND THE SOVIET UNION-- THE UNITED STATES WORKED INTENSIVELY IN FAVOR OF INCLUDING HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTIONS IN THE HISTORIC DOCUMENT. AND AT THE LATEST SESSION OF THE U.N. HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, THE UNITED STATES WAS HIGHLY CRITICAL OF THE WORK OF THAT COMMISSION ON THAT ISSUE. WASHINGTON RENEWED ITS ATTEMPT TO WIN SUPPORT FOR THE AMERICAN POLITICAL AMNESTY PROPOSAL. BUT THE AMERICAN INITIATIVES AT THE U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND AT GENEVA DID NOT PROSPER.

OF COURSE, ALL THIS SUGGESTS THAT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS--REGIONAL OR WORLDWIDE--ARE ONLY AS EFFECTIVE AS THEIR MEMBERS WANT TO MAKE THEM IN DEALING WITH THE PROBLEMS PLACED BEFORE THEM. IT IS IN AN EFFORT TO MAKE BOTH THE UNITED

NATIONS AND THE O.A.S. BETTER TOOLS TO GUARANTEE WORLD HUMAN RIGHTS THAT THE UNITED STATES IS WORKING HARD. SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER, WHO IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN SANTIAGO MONDAY, WILL UNDERTAKE TO ADVANCE THE UNITED STATES VIEWS ON HUMAN RIGHTS AT THE CLOSED SESSIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY. AND HE UNDOUBTEDLY ADDRESS HIMSELF TO THE ISSUE WHEN HE SPEAKS IN OPEN SESSION OUTLINING THE AMERICAN POSITION ON THE AGENDA IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

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